

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:799
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2012
REQUIREMENT OF COLD STORAGES
Lal Shri Kirodi ;Singh Shri Bhupendra

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of agricultural/horticultural produce being preserved in cold storages in each State/UT;
- (b) whether there is an acute shortage of cold storage facilities in the country;
- (c) if so, the number of existing cold storage viz-a-viz the total requirement of cold storages in the country by the year 2015;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to set up cold storages under public-partnership mode in various parts of the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to set up more cold storage chains at various places?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT)

- (a): Cold Storages are a de-regulated activity with private sector management and control. This Ministry does not collect/ maintain data on quantities of produce preserved in cold storage.
- (b): Yes, Madam.
- (c): A study conducted by the National Spot Exchange Ltd. (NSEL) in December, 2010 analyzed production, consumption and shelf life pattern of major fruits and vegetables. The Study has estimated cold storage requirements of 61.13 million tonnes in the country. The present capacity of cold storage has been worked out at 23.51 million MT. The cold storage gap of about 38 million metric tons has been worked out on the basis of peak season production and highest arrival/harvesting of storable fruits and vegetables in a month.
- (d): Yes Madam. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has approved 62 projects so far for establishing cold chain facilities to be implemented by the private/co-operative sectors. These projects are eligible for grants-in-aid in accordance with the Plan Scheme for this purpose.
- (e): Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) through its various schemes for financial assistance and other promotional measures, facilitates creation of post harvest processing infrastructure including processing facilities aimed at reducing wastages, enhancing value addition and increasing shelf life in the country.

Under the Scheme for Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid @ 50% of the total cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works in general areas, and @ 75% of the total cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works is provided by the Ministry in difficult areas subject to a maximum of Rs.10.00 crore. The initiatives are aimed at filling the gaps in the supply chain, strengthening of cold chain infrastructure, establishing value addition with infrastructural facilities like sorting, grading, packaging, processing and preservation for horticultural and non horticultural products like marine, dairy, poultry, etc. Other agencies of the Government like National Horticulture Board (NHB), Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) and State Government also provide assistance for cold storages under their respective schemes.